NUMB. CCCXXX.

The SPECTATOR.

Maxima Debetur pueris reverentia. Juv.

Wednesday, March 19. 1712.

THE following Letters, written by two very conſiderate Correſpondents, both under twenty Years of Age, are very good Arguments of the Neceſſity of taking Conſideration the many Incidents which affect Education of Youth.

SIR,

Have long expected, that in the Courſe of your Obſervations upon the ſeveral Parts humane Life, you would one Time or other fall upon a Subject which, ſince you have not, I take the Liberty to recommend to you. What I mean is the Patronage of young Gentleſt Men, to ſuch as are able to countenance and introduce them into the World. For want of thoſe Aſſiſtances, a Youth of Merit languiſhes in Obſcurity or Poverty when their Circumſtances are low, and run into Riot and Exceſs when their Fortunes are plentiful. I cannot make my Caſe better underſtood, than by ſending you an Hiſtory of my ſelf, which I ſhall deſire you to inſert in your Paper, it being the only Way I have of expreſſing my Gratitude for the higheſt Obligations imaginable.

I am the Son of a Merchant of the City of [illegible], who, by many Loſſes was reduced from a very Luxuriant Trade and Credit, to very narrow Circumſtances in compariſon to that his former Abundance. This took away the Vigour of his Mind, and all manner of attention to a Proſperity, which he now thought deſperate, inſomuch, that he died without a Will, having before buried my Mother in the midſt of his other Miſfortunes. I was ſixteen Years of Age when I loſt my Father, and an Eſtate of 200 *l.* a year came into my Poſſeſſion, without Friend or Guardian to protect me in the management or Enjoyment of it. The natural Conſequence of this, was, though I wanted no director, and ſoon had Fellows who ſet me out for a ſmart young Gentleman, and I came into all the Debaucheries of which I was capable, my Companions and I could not well be ſupported without my running in Debt, which I did very frankly, till I was arreſted and conveyed by a Guard ſtrong enough for the moſt deſperate Aſſaſſine to a Bayliff's Houſe, where I lay ſome days ſurrounded with very merry, but not very agreeable Company. As ſoon as I had extricated my ſelf from this ſhameful Confinement, I reflected upon it with ſo much Horror, that I diſcarded all my old Acquaintance, and took Chambers in an Inn of Court, with a reſolution to ſtudy the Law with all poſſible Application. But I triſled away a whole year in looking over a thouſand intricacies without Friend to apply to in any caſe of doubt; ſo that I only lived there as young Men as little Children are ſent to School before they are capable of Improvement, only to get out of harm's way. In the midſt of this State of Indefenſe, not knowing how to diſpoſe of my ſelf, I was ſought for by a relation of mine, who upon obſerving a good inclination in me, uſed me with great Familiarity, and carried me to his Seat in the Country. When I came there he introduced me to all the good Company in the County, and the great Obligation I have to him for this kind notice, and reſidence with him ever ſince, has made ſo ſtrong an impreſſion upon me, that he has an Authority of a Father over me, founded upon the Love of a Brother. I have a good Study of Books, a good Stable of Horſes always at my command; and tho' I am not now quite Eighteen Years of Age, familiar Converſe on his part, and a ſtrong Inclination to exert my ſelf on mine, have had an effect upon me, that makes me acceptable wherever I go. Thus, Mr. SPECTATOR, by this Gentleman's Favour and Patronage, it is my own Fault if I am not wiſer and richer every Day I live. I ſpeak this as well by ſubſcribing the initial Letters of my Name to thank him, as to incite others to an Imitation of his Virtue. It would be a worthy Work to ſhew what great Charities are to be done without Expence, and how many noble Actions are loſt out of Inadvertency in Perſons capable of performing them if they were put in Mind of it. If a Gentleman of Figure in a County would make his Family a Pattern of Sobriety, good Senſe, and Breeding, and would kindly endeavour to influence the Education and growing Proſpects of the younger Gentry about him, I am apt to believe it would ſave him a great deal of ſtale Beer on a publick Occaſion, and render him the Leader of his Country from their Gratitude to him, inſtead of being a Slave to their Riots and Tumults in order to be made their Repreſentative. The ſame thing might be recommended to all who have made any Progreſs in any Parts of Knowledge, or arrived at any Degree in a Profeſſion; others may gain Preferments and Fortunes from their Patrons, but I have, I hope, received from mine good Habits and Virtues. I repeat to you, Sir, my Requeſt to print this, in return for all the Evil an helpleſs Orphan ſhall ever eſcape, and all the Good he ſhall receive in this Life; both which are wholly owing to this Gentleman's Favour to,

SIR,

Your moſt obedient humble Servant,

S. P.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

I Am a Lad of about 14. I find a mighty pleaſure in Learning. I have been at the *Latin*-Shool 4 Years. I don't know I ever play'd at truant, or neglected any task my Maker ſet me in my Life. I think on what I read in School as I go home at Noon and Night, and ſo intently that I have often gone half a mile out of my way, not minding whither I went. Our Maid tells me, ſhe often hears me talk *Latin* in my Sleep.

And

'And I dream two or three Nights in the Week 'I am reading *Juvenal* and *Homer*. My Master 'seems as well pleased with my performances as 'any Boy's in the same Class. I think if I know my 'own mind, I would chuse rather to be a Scholar, 'than a Prince without Learning. I have a very 'loving affectionate Father, but though very rich, 'yet so mighty near, that he thinks much of the 'Charges of my Education. He often tells me, 'he believes my Schooling will ruin him, that 'I cost him God knows what in Books. I trem-'ble to tell him I want one. I am forced to keep 'my Pocket-Money, and lay it out for a Book 'now and then that he don't know of. He has 'ordered my Master to buy no more Books for 'me, but says he will buy them himself. I asked 'him for *Horace* to'ther Day, and he told me in a 'Passion, he did not believe I was fit for it, 'but only my Master had a mind to make him 'think I had got a great way in my Learning. 'I am sometimes a Month behind other Boys in 'getting the Books my Master gives orders for. 'All the Boys in the School but I, have the Class-'ic Authors, *in usum Delphini*, guilt and letter'd on 'the Back. My Father is often reckoning up how 'long I have been at School, and tells me he fears I 'do little good. My Father's carriage so discou-'rages me, that he makes me grow dull and me-'lancholy. My Master wonders what is the mat-'ter with me; I am afraid to tell him; for he is 'a Man that loves to encourage Learning, and 'would be apt to chide my Father, and not know-'ing my Father's Temper, may make him worse. 'Sir, if you have any Love for Learning, I beg 'you would give me some Instructions in this 'Case, and perswade Parents to encourage their 'Children when they find them diligent and de-'sirous of Learning, I have heard some Parents 'say, they would do any thing for their Children, 'if they would but mind their Learning. I 'would be glad to be in their Place. Dear Sir, 'pardon my Boldness. If you will but consider and 'pity my case, I will pray for your prosperity as 'long as I live.

London, March 2, 1711. *Your Humble Servant,* James Discipulus.

Mr. SPECTATOR, *March the 18th.*

'THE Ostentation you shew'd Yesterday wou'd 'have been pardonable, had you provided 'better for the two Extremities of your Paper, and 'plac'd in one the Letter R, in the other *Nescio* '*quid meditans nugarum; & totus in illis.* A Word 'to the Wise.

I am your most humble Servant, T. Trash.

According to the Emendation of the above Correspondent, the Reader is desired in the Paper of the 17th to read R for T.

Never acted but twice.

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, to Morrow, being Thursday, the 20th of March, will be presented a new Tragedy call'd, The Distreſt Mother. By her Majesty's Command no Persons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

Whereas a checquer'd Cloak-Bag was dropt from behind a Gentleman between Southwark and Crouched-Friars last Night about 7 a Clock with some Linnen, 2 Perriwigs, and some Books and Papers, &c of no use but to the Owner: Whoever brings it to Hamlin's Coffee-house by the Exchange, shall there receive 3 Guineas Reward, and no Questions ask'd.

By the Desire of several Persons of Quality,

To be seen some Time longer, Over against the Muse-Gate at Charing-Cross: Rarities: Having [illegible] Man 3 Foot high and 32 Years of Age, Plump and proportionable every way. The next is his Wife, a little Woman, 2 Foot 9 Inches high, and 30 Years of Age, who is now delivered of a Child by the Douglas, which Child is also to be seen at the same Place, being the least Woman that ever was with Child in Europe: Likewise their little House, 2 Foot and Inches high, which performs several wonderful Actions by the Word or Command, being so small that it's kept in a Box. Next is that wonderful Female Creature having a Head like a Hog, a Satyr from the Coast of Brazil, having a Head like a Child, and of such a wonderful Shape that the like was never seen in England before; with a great many strange and wonderful Creatures, which are too tedious to be mentioned here. And is to be seen from 9 in the Morning till 9 at Night, where due Attendance shall be given.

For SALE by AUCTION,

This Day the 19th Instant, at Nine a Clock in the Morning, at the Hall and Looking Glass in Cornhill, over against the Royal Exchange, the Household Goods of a Glass Man, deceased; consisting of several large Glasses in carved and gilt Frames, Glass Frames, and all sorts of arched Hanging Glasses, Chimney Glasses, and Dressing Glasses, with all sorts of fine Cabinets, Beaufets, Cases, and Card-Tables, and all Sorts of Cabinet Work. The Goods to be seen and Catalogues to be had till the Time of Sale.

At the Crown in Wine-Office-Court the 2d Door on the Left hand from Fleet-street, on Saturday the 9th of [illegible] last were opened 3 Books for the SALE of NUM-BERS, which have met with very good Success and Encouragement; giving Cent. per Cent. Advantage in a Return of no longer Time than 4 Weeks for the first hundred Numbers, and more will they longer than 4 Weeks from the Time of their Entrance they receive half the proposed Advantage. Attendance is given daily from 9 to 12, and from 2 till 6.

At the Mountain Wine-Cellar under the Rose and South Sea Coffee-house in Broad-street, is sold by Retail excellent Mountain Malaga Wine at 6 s. 8 d. per Gallon, or 1 s 9 d. per Quart, and Red Viana Wine at 13 d. per Flask. Such Persons as take 2 Gallons shall pay but 12 s. there being 13 Bottles, warranted all neat and pure from the Grape.

TO BE LETT.

At Mortlake in Surrey near the lower Road to Richmond, a very good Brick House, wainscotted and Seiled, with Coach-house, Stables, and other Out-houses, Gardens and Grounds walled in and planted with the choiceſt of Fruit trees and beſt Greens, the Fruit being worth more than half the Rent. Inquire at St. Paul's Coffee house, or of Mr. Hunt, Upholder, at the 3 Pillows in St Paul's Church-yard, or of Mr. James Cook, Carpenter, in Mortlake. N B. Some Furniture in the House will be disposed of with if desired.

At Mr. England's a Powder Shop over against the Bull and Gate Inn near Little Turn Stile in High Holborn, is an Office on the Lives of pregnant Women and their Children, for the great Satisfaction and Advantage of all that are concerned therein: Out of which the Persons claiming have received above 1000 l. since December last, very few having received less than the Rate of between 2 and 300 l per Cent in the Year clear Profit, and none under a 100 l. for every 100 in the Year, including Losses, as can be plainly made appear. At the same Place, on the 21st Day of March next, at the Request of Subscribers, will be published a new Book of the like Nature in 3 Divisions, wherein Person will pay any thing (except Entrance Money) for a Ticket after the Rate of their Admittance. Note, All Persons always receive their Money a Fortnight after their Claim is made.

Very great Choice of all Sorts of the best Black Silks for Hoods and Scarves, and rich Black Paduasways and Silks and coloured Mantuas for Gowns and Petticoats; likewise Whitenesses and Persians for Hoods, and coloured Persians for Lynings, sold very great Pennyworths either wholesale or Retale, at the Golden Ball and two Rowls of Silk in St Martins le Grand near Aldersgate, the second Door above Angel-street, one Side being a Slipper and the other Clogg-Maker's Shop; by one who was bread a Mercer and formerly lived on Ludgate-hill. He likewise sells Furbulowed Scarfs and Aprons ready made very cheap.

Holman's London Ink Powder Records. Most Excellent for all Persons to make their Writing-Ink as Black and as Strong as pleaſe. Each 6 d. Paper makes a Pint or First half of the best, and a Quart for common or Marking Ink, only by often shaking or stirring in so much Rain or River Water; and it answers Weak and Pale Ink, and is best for Carriage by Sea or Land. Sold by most Stationers, Booksellers, and Haberdashers in and London, and by Shop keepers in the chiefest Cities and Towns in land. And that none may be Imposed on by false Pretenders, Cheats or Counterfeits, this only has been approved on for many Years most Parts of the World; and a Patent granted under the Great of England, to Charles Holman in Red-Lyon-Street in Southwark the making the same, he being the first Inventor and Publisher Each Paper is sealed with the above Coat of Arms, and Directions given with the same. Note, This is the same that has so often Published in the London Gazette.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertisements are taken in as also by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* the *Strand*.